

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine which includes:

 a display including a plurality of display positions for displaying combinations of symbols;

 a controller that controls operation of the machine, processes data, selects outcomes of games played on the machine, and causes the display to display in the display positions certain symbols from a set of symbols to represent the selected outcomes, the gaming machine being adapted to play a base game in which a player places a base bet to purchase at least one outcome selected for display by the controller and wherein, if a particular winning outcome occurs, the machine awards a prize, the prize being determined in accordance with a pay table which determines a prize for each winning outcome; and

 a selector operable on payment of an additional bet prior to commencement of the base game wherein, when the selector is operated, the controller adds at least one additional feature to the base game wherein the at least one additional feature comprises at least one feature selected from the group consisting of:

 a player favorable variation in the outcomes available for the controller to select and

eligibility for the award of a one or more feature games in the event of a feature game trigger occurring during play of the base game,

wherein the selector enables a player to select from a range of additional features to enable the player to tailor the game to the player's requirements prior to commencement of the base game.

2. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of claim 1 in which the additional bet is a multiple of the base bet wagered by the player.
3. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of claim 2 in which different multiples of the base bet purchase different additional features.
4. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of claim 1 in which the selector comprises a plurality of selectors operable by the player to select the at least one additional feature before making the base bet.
5. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of claim 1 in which the additional bet provides eligibility to a benefit provided by the additional feature, there being no guarantee that the additional feature will result in the award of a prize merely by having staked the additional bet.
6. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of claim 1 in which the additional feature further comprises eligibility for the award of one or more feature games in the event of a feature game trigger occurring inn the base game and wherein the trigger event comprises an event that is independent of the outcomes selected for the base game.
7. (Canceled)
8. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine of claim [[7]] 1 in which certain of the additional features comprise a series of game events purchased by the additional bet, while

other features comprise a series of game events that require the staking of at least one further bet by the player.

9. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of claim 1, wherein the machine comprises a plurality of games and wherein the selector enables the player to select one of the plurality of games as the base game.

10. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of claim 1 in which the selector includes dedicated buttons on a keypad of the controller.

11. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of claim 1 in which the selector includes touch sensors of a touch screen of the display.

12-28. (Canceled).

29. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of claim 1, wherein, when the selector is operated, the controller adds both a player favorable variation in the set of symbols from which the controller selects symbols for display, and eligibility for the award of one or more feature games in the event of a feature game trigger occurring in the base game.

30-33. (Canceled).